

October 21, 2014



Overcoming the Dangers of
DROWSY DRIVING
National Transportation Safety Board Forum

Diseases and Health Conditions that can Lead to Daytime Sleepiness

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My background

- ▶ Research in screening for sleep apnea in commercial drivers
 - ▶ FMCSA-funded study
 - ▶ NIOSH/CDC-funded study
- ▶ Penn Occupational Sleep Medicine program
- ▶ Advisor to MCSAC/MRB at FMCSA in revising guidelines on sleep apnea management in commercial drivers
- ▶ Member of American Academy of Sleep Medicine's Transportation and Safety Task Force



Two-process model

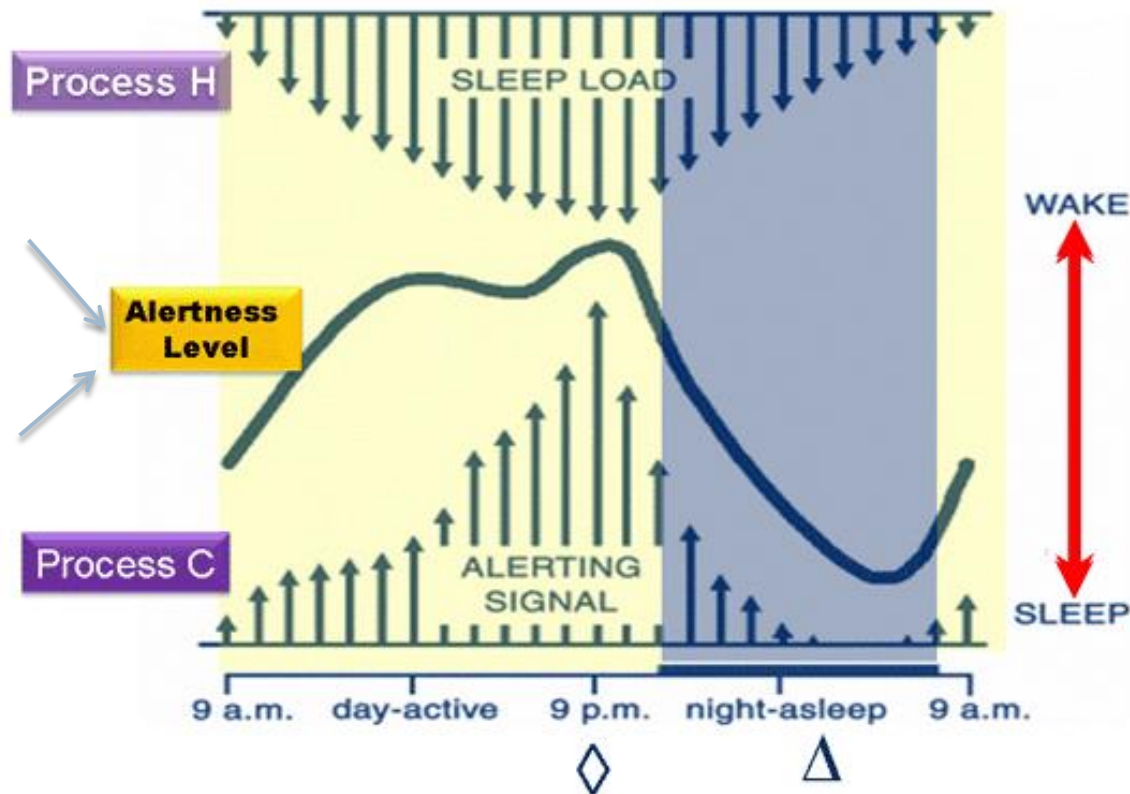
HOMEOSTATIC DRIVE FOR SLEEP

Endogenous Factors

- Stress
- Anxiety
- Urgency
- Motivation

Exogenous Factors

- Alcohol, caffeine
- Noise
- Workload
- Physical activity

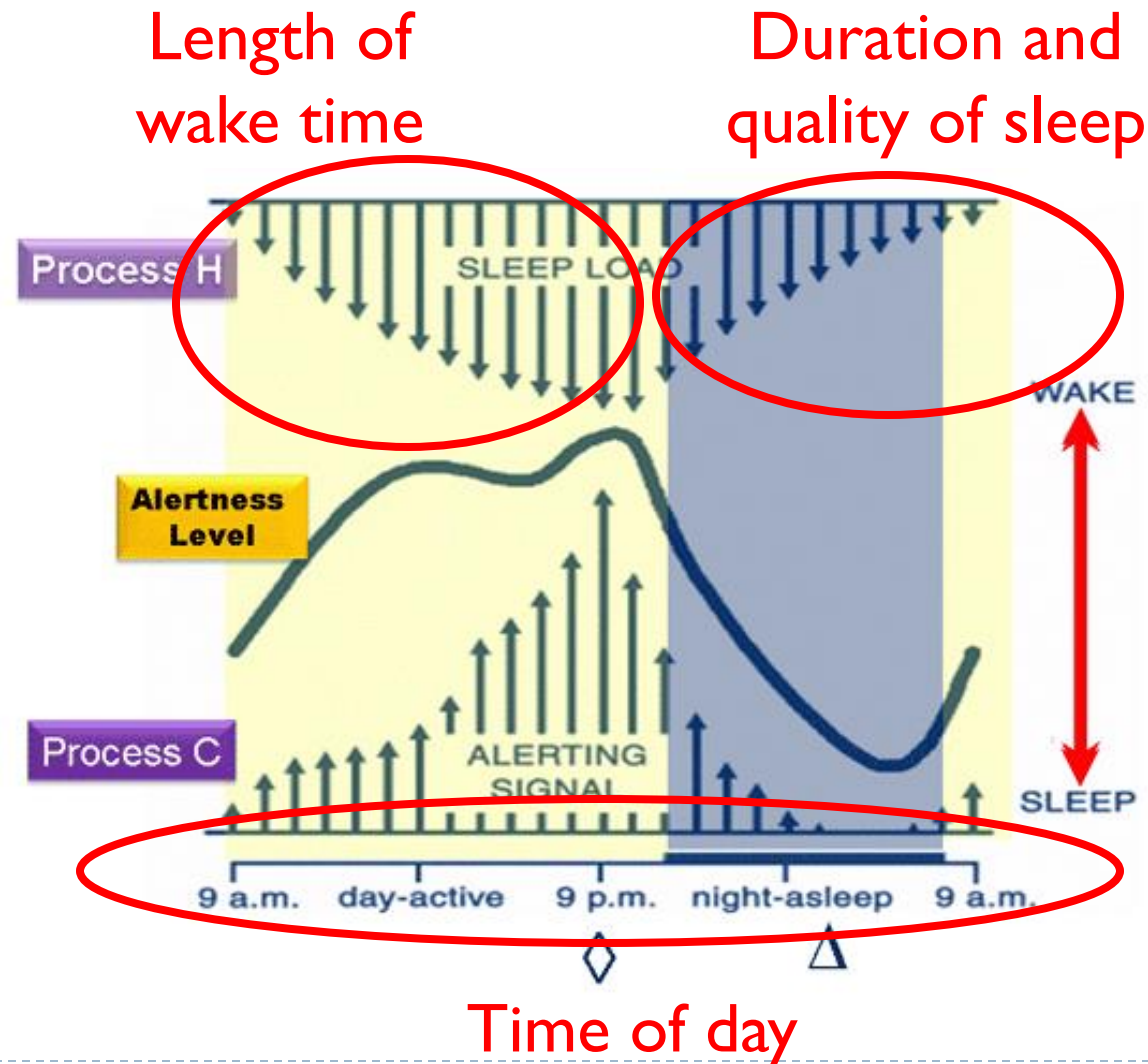


Increased behavioral capability

Reduced behavioral capability

CIRCADIAN DRIVE FOR WAKEFULNESS

Disorders that cause sleepiness



Conditions associated with daytime sleepiness

- ▶ Obstructive sleep apnea
- ▶ Other sleep disorders (e.g., periodic limb movements/restless legs syndrome)
- ▶ Some medical, psychiatric disorders
- ▶ Some medications
- ▶ Others

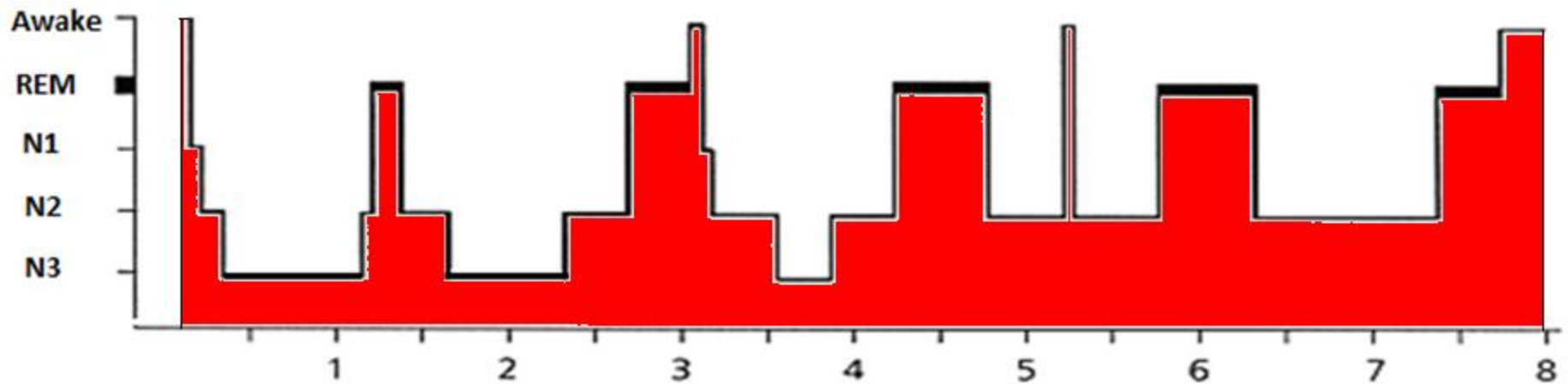


Overview – Obstructive Sleep Apnea

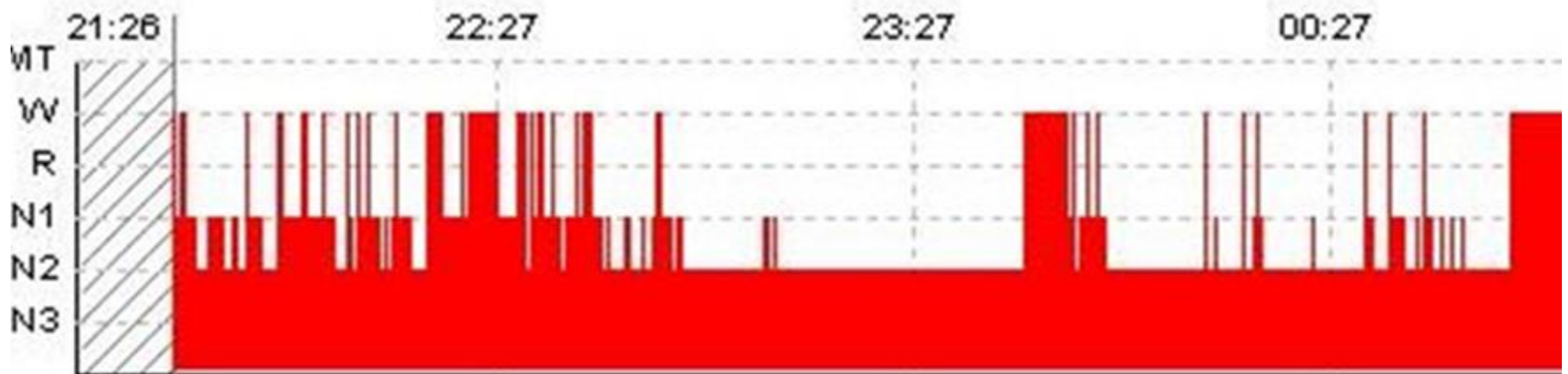
- ▶ What is obstructive sleep apnea?
- ▶ Who is likely to have it?
- ▶ How common is it?
- ▶ What are the usual symptoms?
- ▶ What are the health and economic consequences?
- ▶ Can we diagnose it quickly and at low cost?
- ▶ Can it be treated?
 - ▶ Does treatment help?
 - ▶ Does treatment make sense economically?



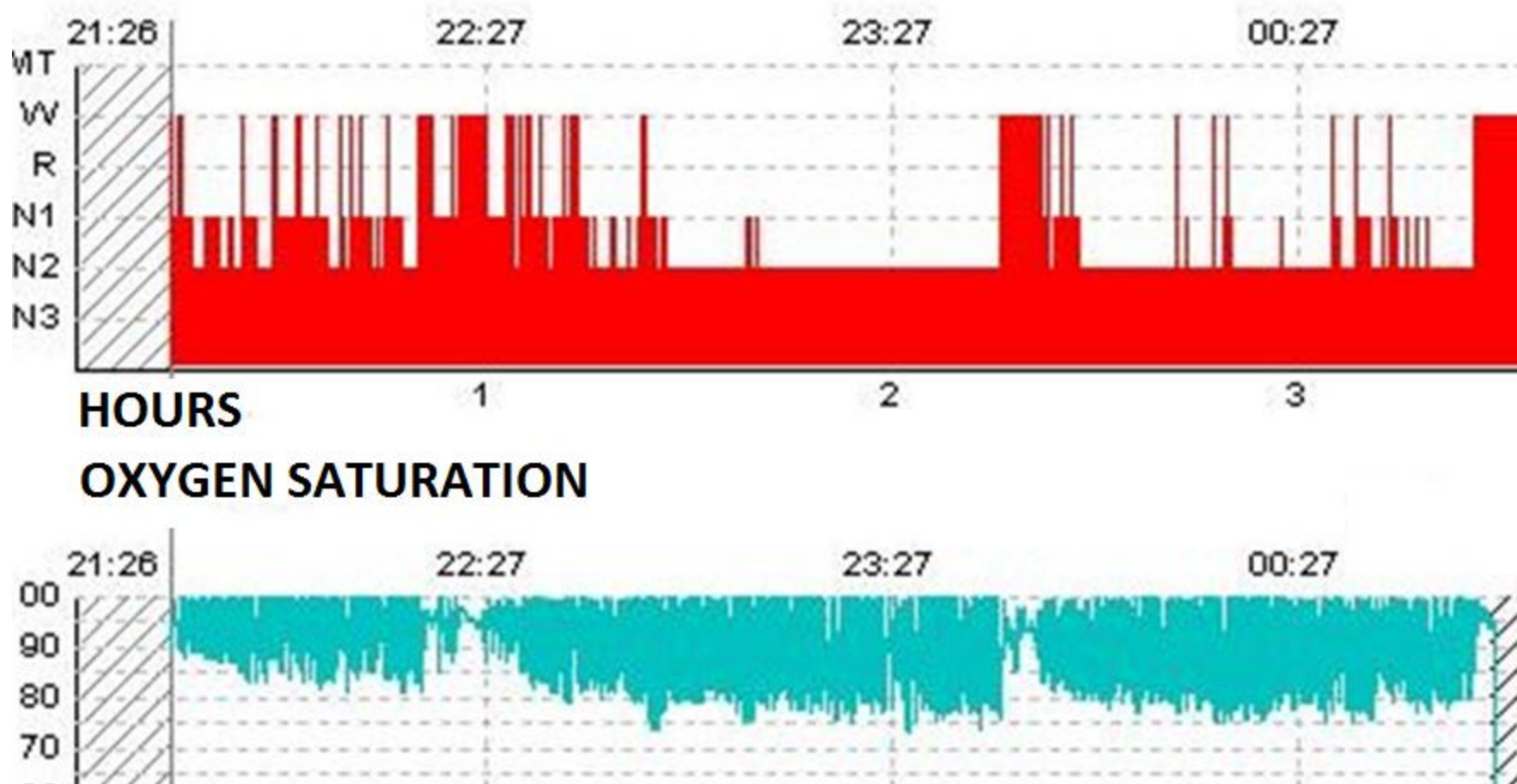
a brain on sleep, and a brain with sleep apnea



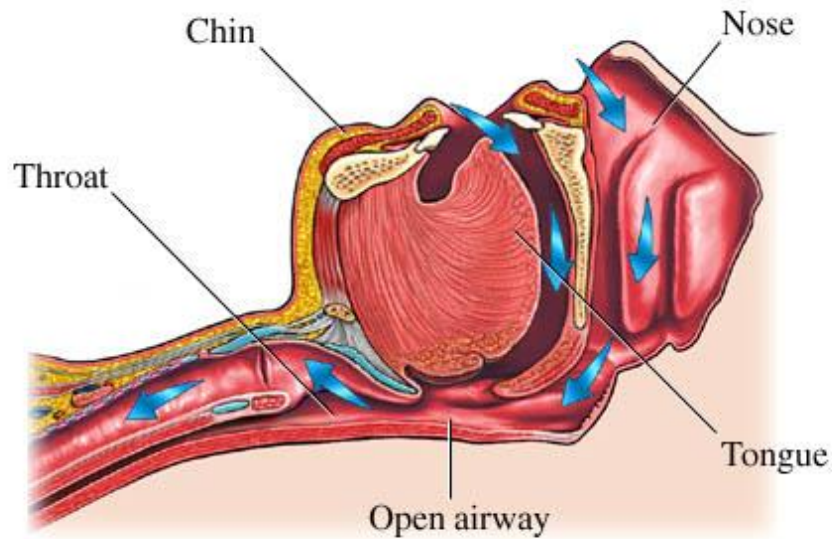
HOURS OF SLEEP



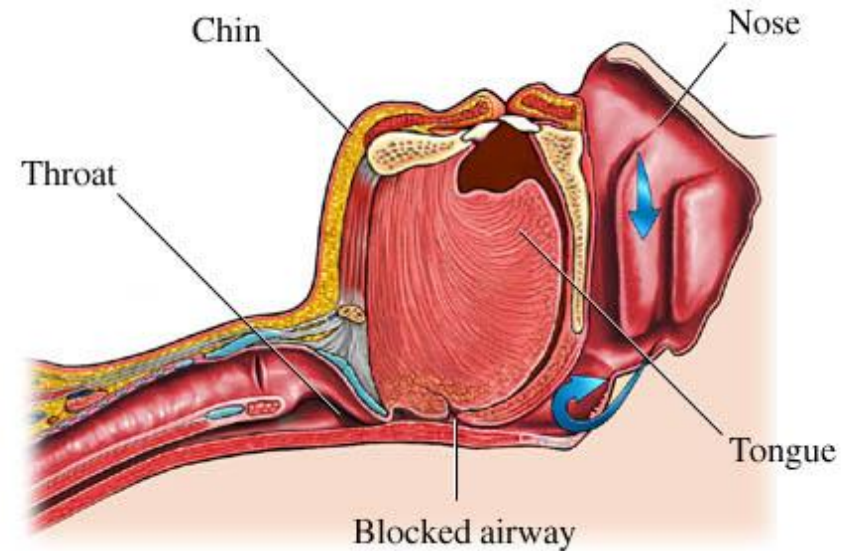
sleep architecture during sleep apnea is disrupted by drops in oxygen level



sleep apnea: what actually happens?



AWAKE



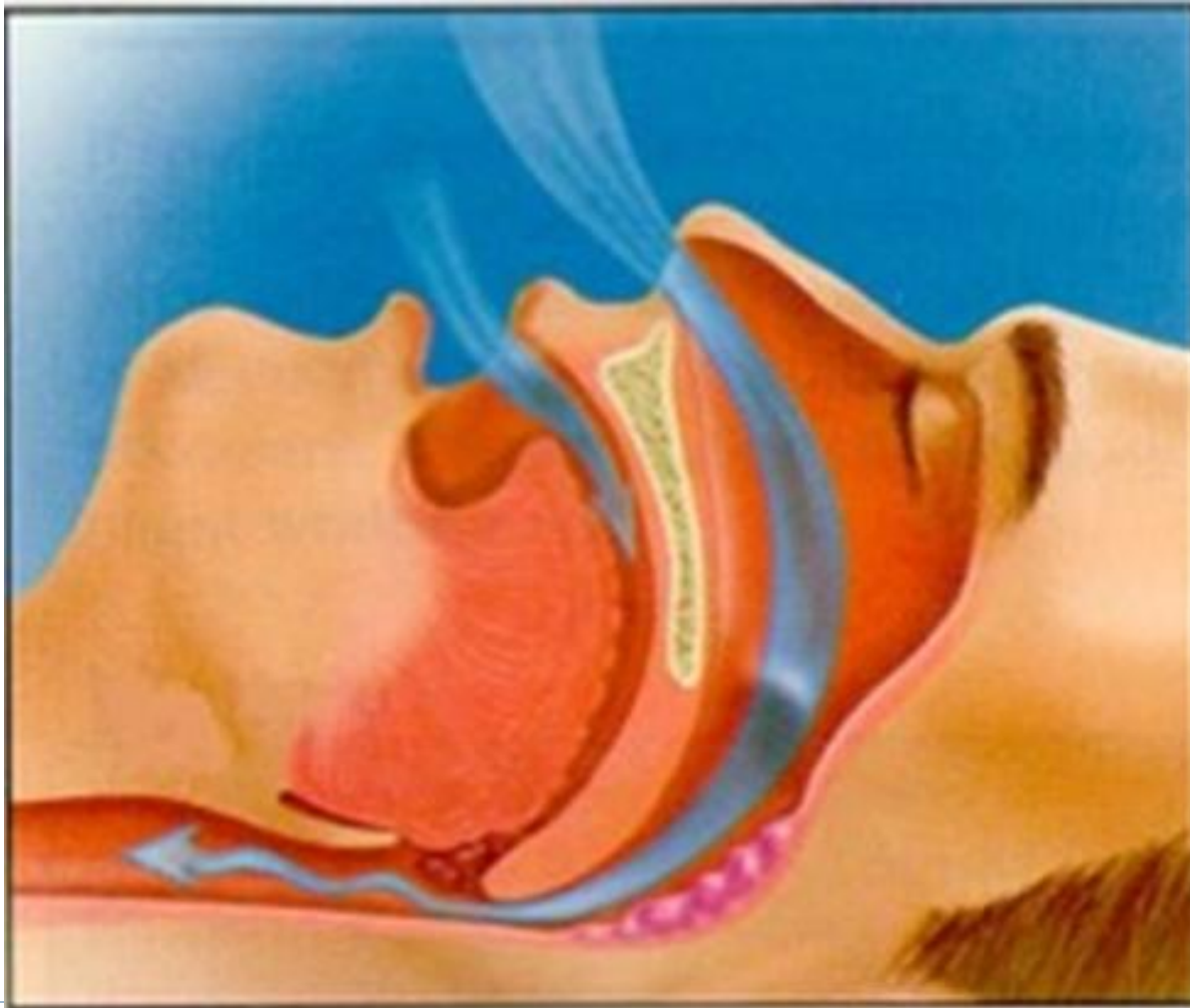
ASLEEP

Why are some people at risk for sleep apnea?

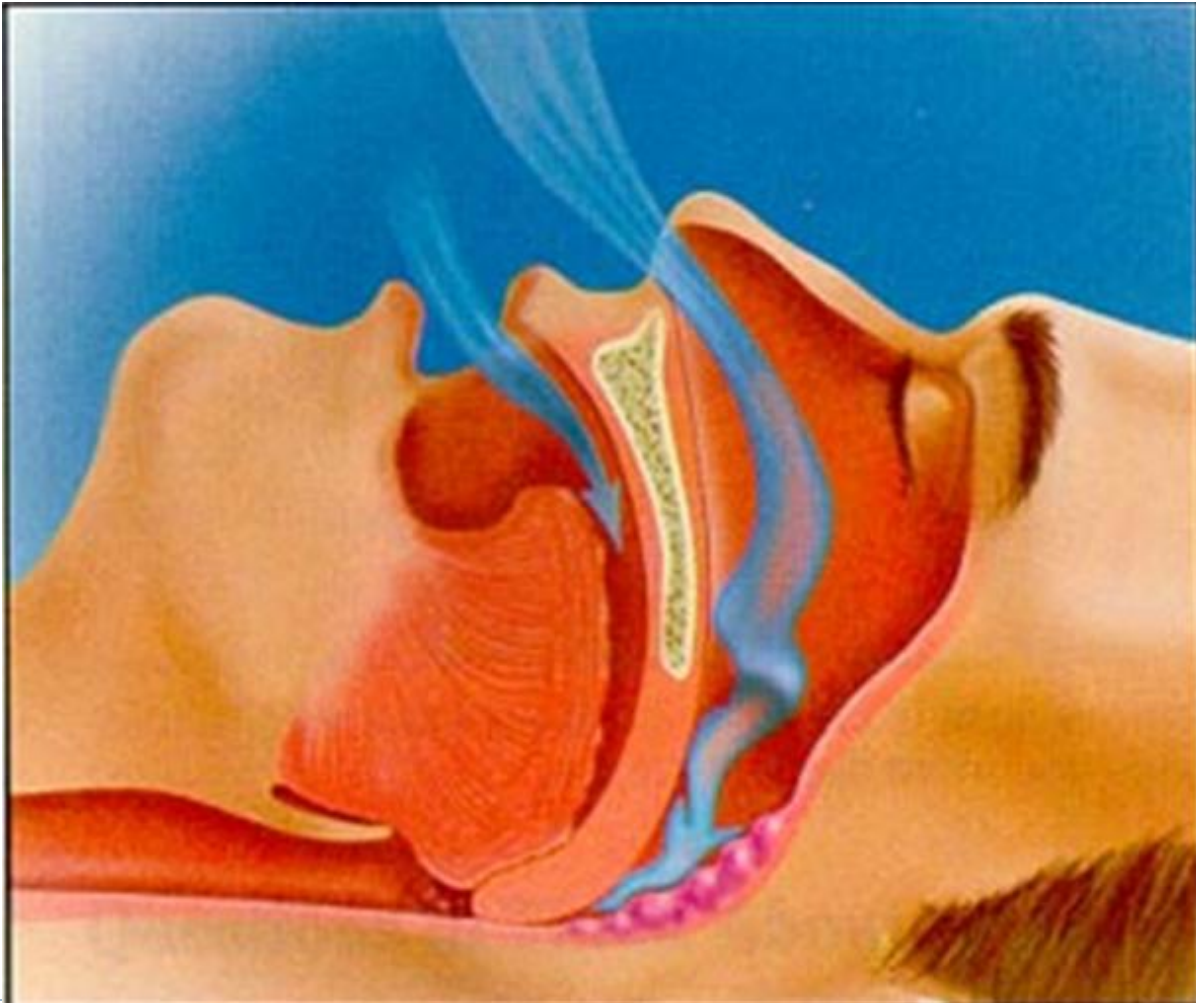
- ▶ OBESITY
- ▶ OBESITY
- ▶ OBESITY
- ▶ Airway crowding
 - ▶ Large tonsils
 - ▶ Large tongue
 - ▶ Small jaw
- ▶ Middle age/older
- ▶ Male gender
- ▶ After menopause in women
- ▶ Alcohol, sedatives, narcotics
- ▶ Heredity



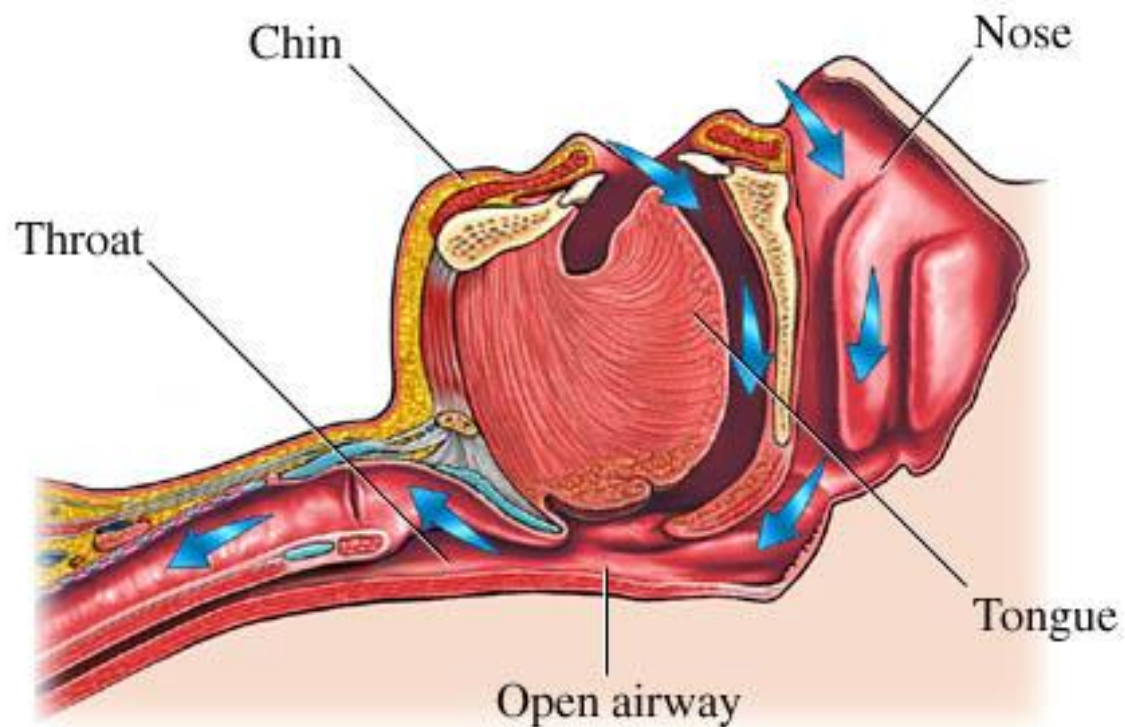
Snoring



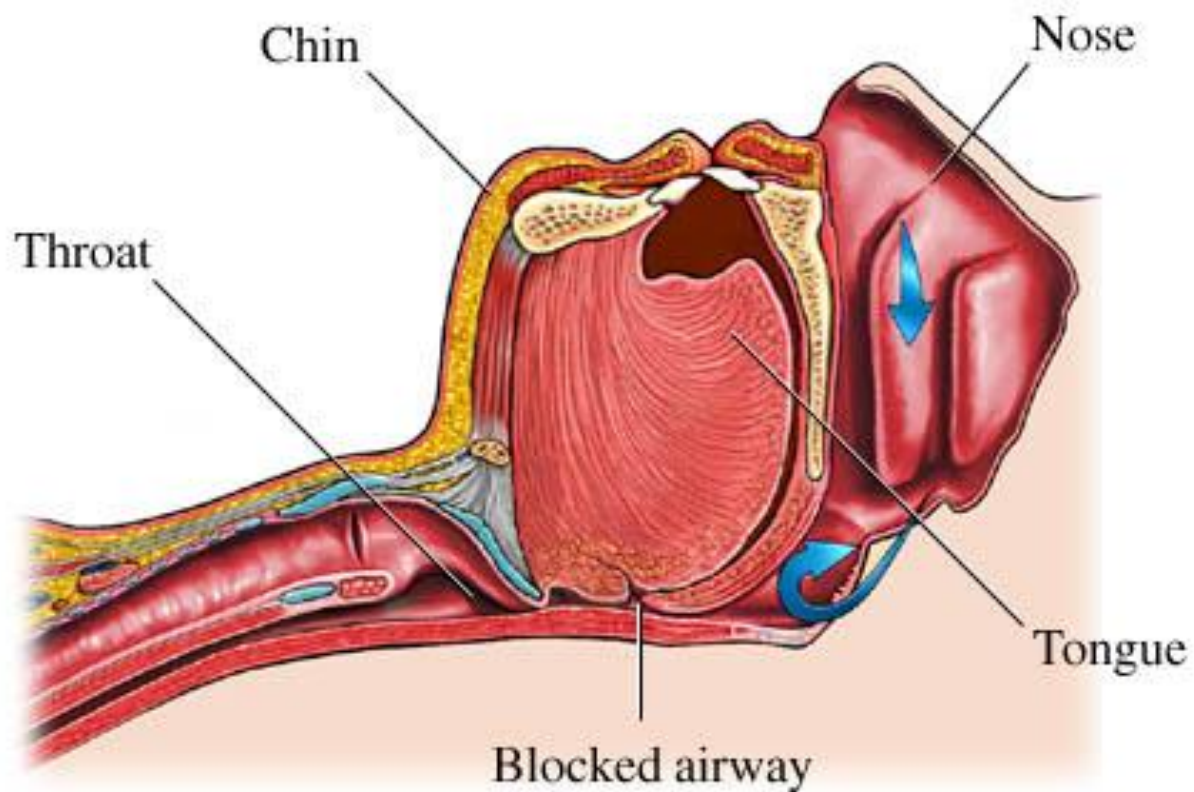
Apnea



Awake – open airway



Asleep – blocked airway



Life with sleep apnea

worse with weight gain

DAYTIME

- Sleepiness
 - ↑ Crash risk
- ↓ mood, memory, concentration, attention
- ↑ reaction time
- Morning headache
- Impotence
- ↓ productivity
- Absenteeism

LONG-TERM

- Hypertension
- Heart disease
- Stroke
- Pre-diabetes
- Death

NIGHTTIME

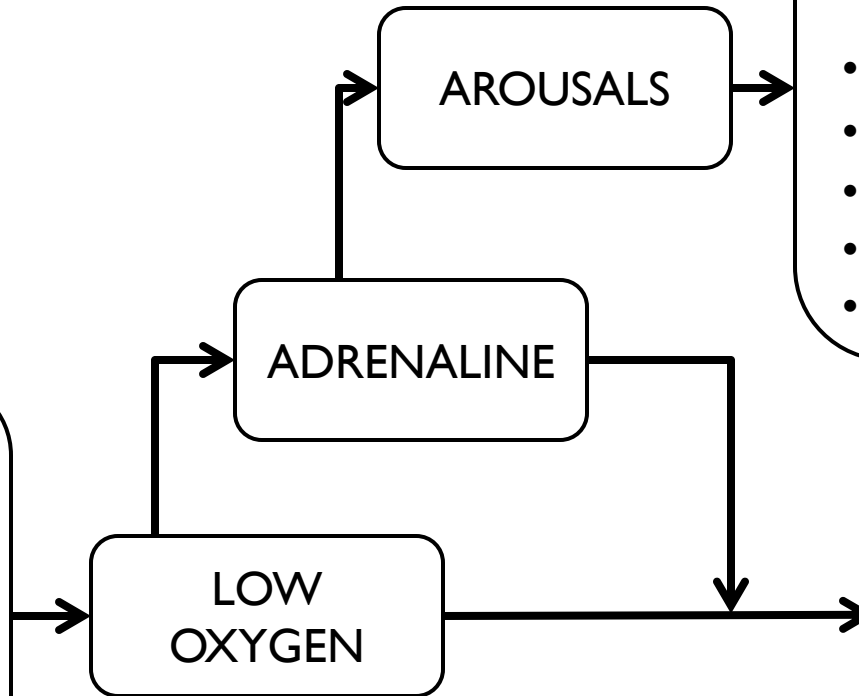
**APNEAS,
HYPOPNEAS**
(observed by
others)

Snoring
Choking, Gasping
Frequent urination

LOW
OXYGEN

ADRENALINE

AROUSALS



studies have linked OSA to crashes

JCSM
Journal of Clinical
Sleep Medicine

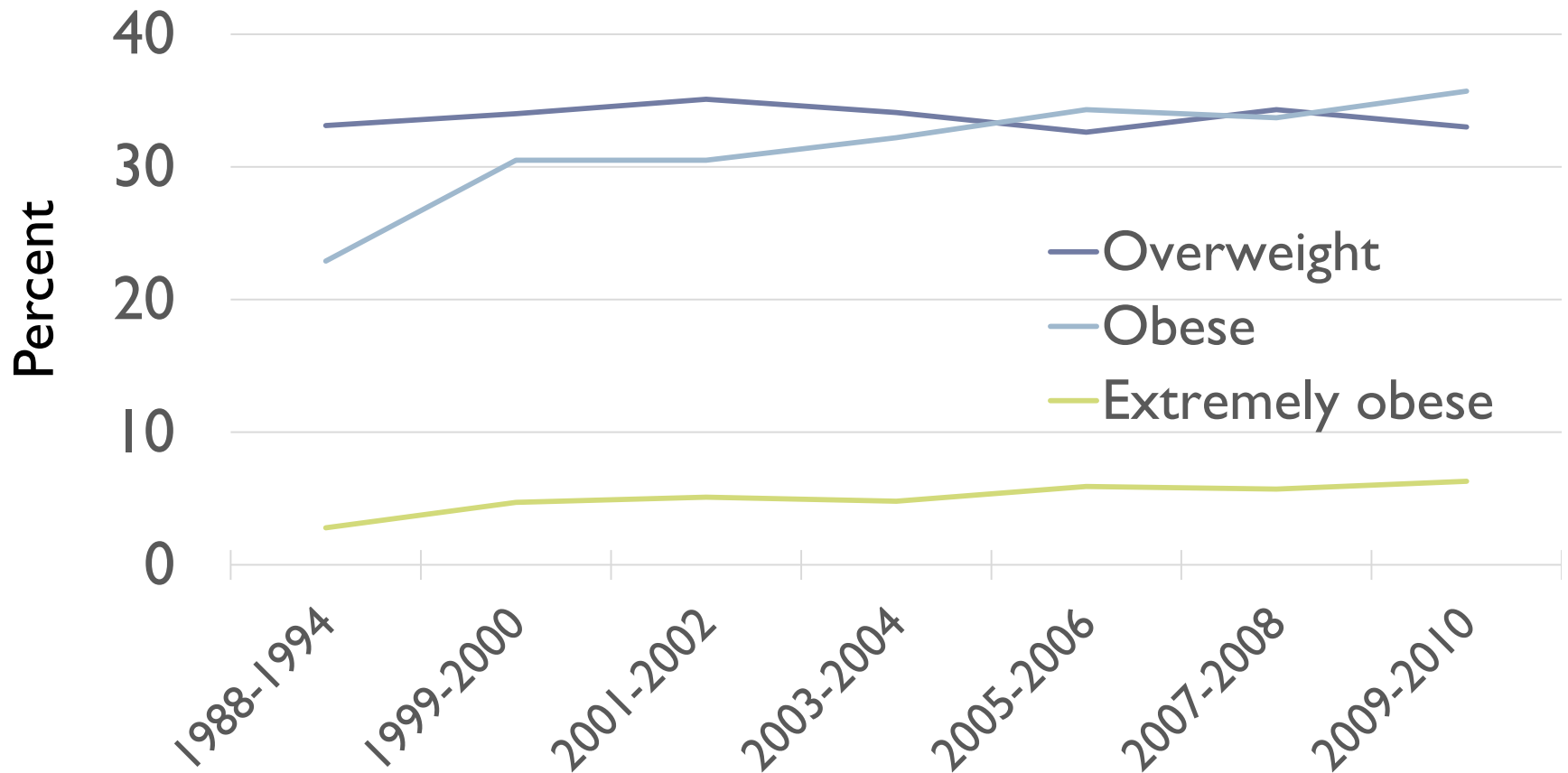
REVIEW ARTICLE

Obstructive Sleep Apnea and Risk of Motor Vehicle Crash: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Stephen Tregear, Ph.D.¹; James Reston, Ph.D., M.P.H.²; Karen Schoelles, M.D., S.M.²; Barbara Phillips, M.D., M.S.P.H.³

Study sample	Odds of crash
18 studies in car drivers; 2 in truck drivers	OR= 1.21 -4.89

obesity: a growing problem



as obesity becomes more common, so does sleep apnea

prevalence data from 1994 was used to model current prevalence rates, based on recent age, sex, BMI data from NHANES

Prevalence of moderate to severe apnea		
	Men	Women
1994 (Young <i>et al</i>) (state employees, age 30-60 years)	9%	4%
2007-2010 (Peppard <i>et al</i>)		
30-49 years	10%	3%
50-70 years	17%	9%

subgroups with high rates of sleep apnea

- ▶ Hypertension^{1, 2, 3}

- ▶ 30-40% have sleep apnea

(60% of patients with sleep apnea have hypertension)

- ▶ Hypertension requiring ≥ 3 drugs to treat⁴

- ▶ 83% have sleep apnea

- ▶ Obese, type 2 diabetes⁵

- ▶ 86% have sleep apnea

¹Kales, Lancet, 1984

²Williams, *Am J Cardiol*, 1985

³Lavie, *Am Heart J*, 1984

⁴Logan *et al*, *J Hypertens*, 2001

⁵Foster *et al*, *Diabetes Care*, 2009



85% of people with sleep apnea do not know
they have it.



in-lab sleep study

- Brain waves
- Eye movement
- Chin, leg muscles
- Chest and abdomen effort
- Airflow, snoring
- Oxygen level



85% of cases remain undiagnosed



portable sleep study

- Chest and abdomen effort
- Airflow, snoring
- Oxygen level



apnea-hypopnea index (AHI)

$$\frac{\text{APNEAS} + \text{HYPOPNEAS}}{\text{HOURS OF SLEEP}}$$

Severity	AHI (events/hour)
None	[0-5)
Mild	[5-15)
Moderate	[15-30)
Severe	≥ 30

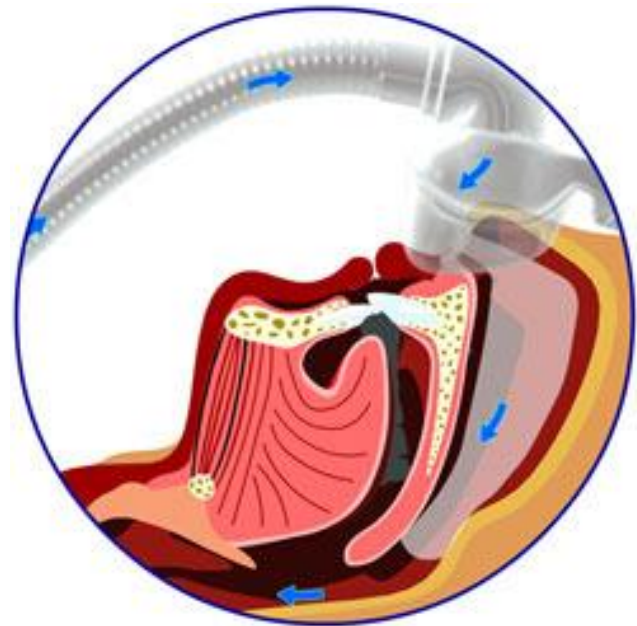
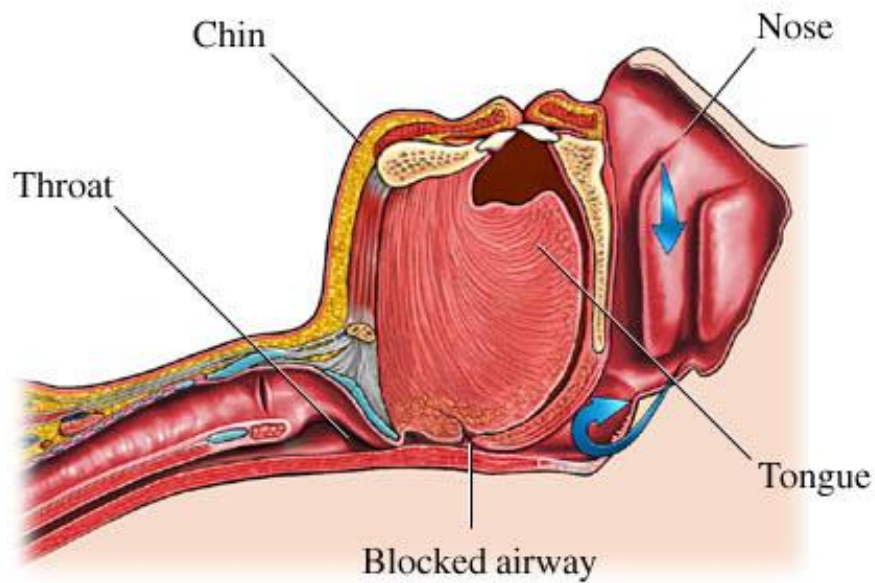
is sleep apnea treatable?



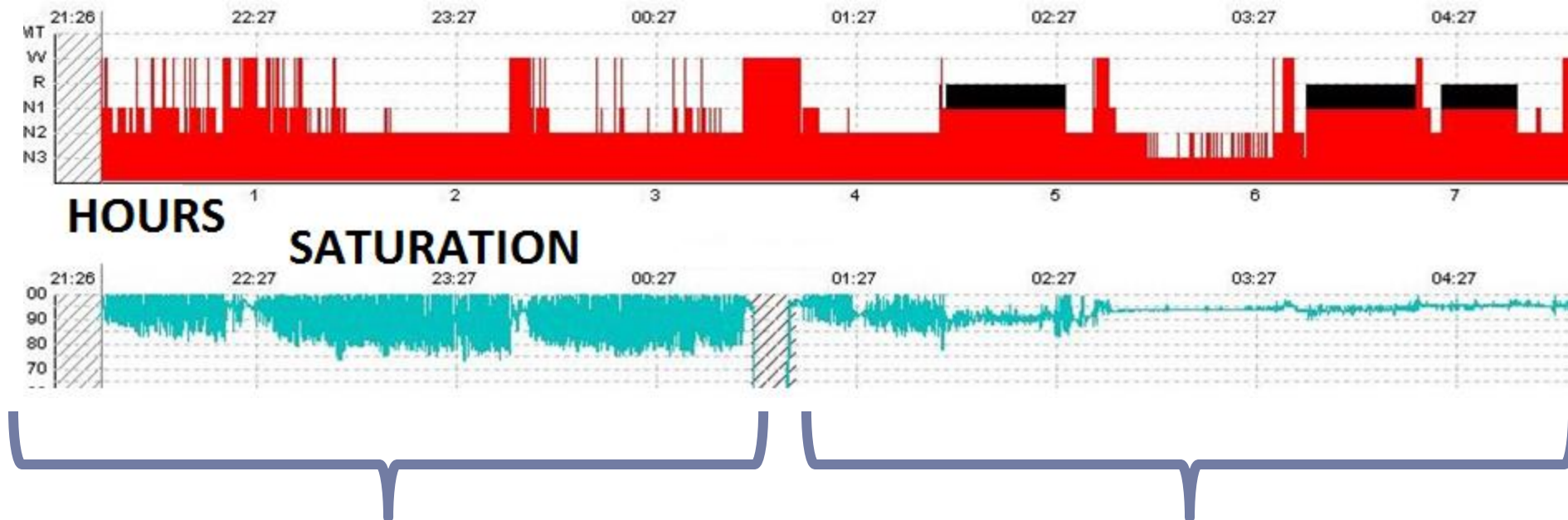
continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP)



continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP)



CPAP restores oxygen and consolidates sleep



In addition to lowering AHI and improving oxygen level, what are the benefits of CPAP?

■ CPAP lowers

- health care costs^{1, 2, 3}
- disability claims³
- absenteeism³
- workplace turnover⁴
- **crash risk⁶**
- blood pressure^{7, 8}
- heart disease, stroke^{9, 10, 11}
- recurrence of stroke¹¹
- mortality¹²
- atrial fibrillation¹³

■ CPAP improves

- quality of life⁵
- alertness⁶
- **performance on driving simulator⁶**

¹Albarrak, *Sleep*, 2005

²Ronald, *Sleep Res Online*, 1998

³Hoffman, *JOEM*, 2010

⁴Osterberg, *Sleep Apnea Trucking Conference*, 2010

⁵Sanner, *Eur Respir J*, 2000

⁶Tregear, *Sleep*, 2010

⁷Haentjens, *Archives Int Med*, 2007

⁸Bazzano, *Hypertension*, 2007

⁹Buchner, *AJRCCM*, 2007

¹⁰Marin, *Lancet*, 2008

¹¹Yaggi, *NEJM*, 2005

⁹Martinez-Garcia, *Chest*, 2005

¹⁰Martinez-Garcia, *AJRCCM*, 2009

¹³Fein, *JACC*, 2013



CPAP lowers crash risk

CPAP AND MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH RISK: REVIEW AND META-ANALYSIS

Continuous Positive Airway Pressure Reduces Risk of Motor Vehicle Crash among Drivers with Obstructive Sleep Apnea: Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

Stephen Tregear, PhD¹; James Reston, PhD, MPH²; Karen Schoelles, MD, SM²; Barbara Phillips, MD, MSPH³

¹MANILA Consulting Group, McLean, VA; ²ECRI Institute, Plymouth Meeting, PA; ³Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Kentucky College of Medicine, Lexington, KY

9 studies of crash risk in OSA patients showed that after treatment with CPAP:

- ▶ Crash risk dropped
 - ▶ risk ratio = 0.278, 95% CI: 0.22 to 0.35; P < 0.001
- ▶ Daytime sleepiness improved after one night
- ▶ Simulated driving performance improved within 2-7 days

Other therapies

- ▶ **Second line:**
 - ▶ oral appliance, upper airway surgery, others
- ▶ **Weight loss**
- ▶ **Limit alcohol**
- ▶ **Limit sedatives, narcotics**
- ▶ **Avoid tobacco smoke**
- ▶ **Keep nasal passages open (control congestion, correct deviated septum)**
- ▶ **Sometimes stimulant therapy is offered in addition to CPAP, to treat residual sleepiness**



How do we know if patients are using CPAP?

MONITORING SYSTEMS

- ▶ SD cards
- ▶ Remote/wireless

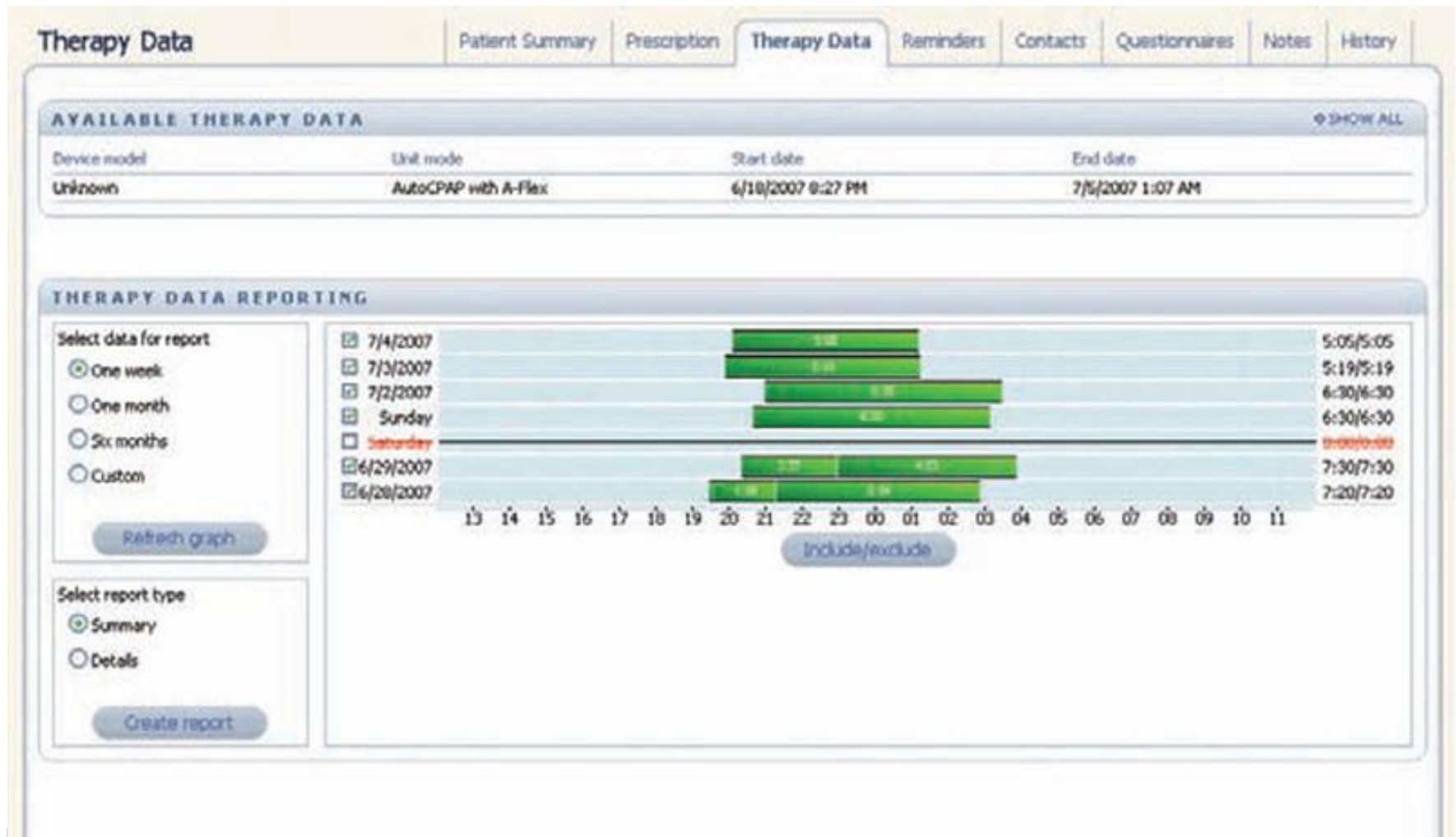
REPORTED DATA

- ▶ Hours of use
- ▶ Pressure level
- ▶ Residual apnea
- ▶ Mask leak

Issues can be addressed in “real” time



CPAP monitoring: sample



Summary

SLEEP APNEA

- ▶ is common
- ▶ causes sleepiness
- ▶ is linked to major economic and health outcomes, including crashes
- ▶ can be diagnosed in the home

CPAP treatment

- ▶ is inexpensive
- ▶ is accessible
- ▶ lowers crash risk
- ▶ improves many health conditions, costs
- ▶ is trackable in real-time



Questions?

